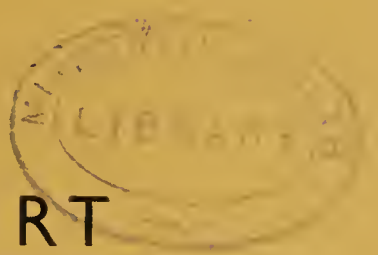


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LUDLOW RURAL DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT



of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1954.



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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

Medical Officer of Health:

James L. Gregory, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.F.P.S., D.P.H.,  
D.T.M. & Hy.

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

Ronald F. Saunders, Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A., M.R.S.I.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

G.S. Banks, Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A., M.R.S.I.

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Table showing the causes of Deaths.

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LUDLOW RURAL DISTRICT.  
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
1954.

LUDLOW

1st June, 1955.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Report on the Health of your District for the year ending on the 31st December, 1954.

The Birth-rate for the District was 17.6 and the Death-rate was 8.9 and both these figures are satisfactory when compared with the figures for the country as a whole.

During the year there was no serious outbreak of any Infectious Disease and the total number of cases notified was lower than in the previous year. There were no cases of Diphtheria notified nor of Acute Poliomyelitis.

A total of six cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified and also four cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis. There were no deaths from this disease.

Housing continues to be a matter of very great importance. It is hoped that the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, in which changes have been made with regard to the conditions under which Grants can be given to owners who are willing to undertake repairs or conversions of their houses, will result in many of the older houses being improved.

New Council Houses completed during the year numbered forty and nineteen private houses were also built. The building of houses for older persons has also been considered by the Council and when these are built they should prove of great value. If older people are in good health they are very often unwilling to be moved to Institutions but prefer to have a house of their own.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the Sanitary Inspectors for the work they have done during the year and for their help in the preparation of the Report.

JAMES L. GREGORY.

Medical Officer of Health.





LUDLOW RURAL DISTRICT.

VITAL STATISTICS.

1954.

	Total.	M.	F.
Live Births - Legitimate	201	103	98
Illegitimate	9	5	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	210	108	102
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Birth Rate per 1,000 of population = 17.6

Still Births - Legitimate	7	2	5
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	8	2	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Still Birth Rate = 36.7

Deaths. 143 82 61

Death Rate per 1,000 of population = 8.9

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR.

	Number of Infant deaths.	Mortality Rate
a. Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate births.	6	29.8
b. Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate births.	-	-
c. All infants per 1,000 total live births.	6	29.8

The following are some of the rates for England and Wales:-

Birth Rate	=	15.2.	per 1,000 of population
Death Rate	=	11.3.	" " " "
Infant Mortality Rate	=	25.6.	" " total births.
Still Birth Rate	=	24.0.	" " " live and still births.

The following were the numbers of deaths from three of the diseases which were the cause of the greatest number of deaths in the Rural District during 1954.

<u>Cause.</u>	<u>Number of Deaths.</u>
Diseases of Heart and Circulation	61
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	27
Malignant Disease	18



## SECTION A.

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area (in acres)	113,004
Registrar-General's estimate of the population (mid-1954)	13,820
Number of inhabited houses	4,221
Rateable Value of the District	£69,514
Estimated product of 1d Rate	£276

---

The figure showing the estimated population for mid-1954 gives an increase of 50 over the figure for mid-1953 when the number estimated was 13,770.

#### Births and Birth-Rate.

Live births numbered 210 (Legitimate 201, Illegitimate 9). The 'crude' birth-rate was 15.2 but in order that the rate may be compared with that for other districts or for the country as a whole it has to be multiplied by the Comparability Factor as supplied by the General Register Office. This Factor is 1.16 and the corrected birth-rate is 17.6.

#### Still Births.

The total Still Births were eight in number and this gives a Still Birth Rate of 36.7. The number of Still Births in 1952 was one and in 1953 it was eleven.

#### Deaths.

Deaths registered numbered 143 and the Corrected Death Rate was 8.9, this being the same as in the previous year. The 'crude' rate was 10.3 and the Comparability Factor was 0.87.

#### Infantile Mortality.

Deaths of infants under the age of one year numbered six. The Infantile Mortality was 28.8.

#### Puerperal Deaths.

No Puerperal Deaths were reported.

#### Natural Increase of Population.

The total number of Births exceed the total Deaths by 87.



## SECTION B.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

#### Staff.

The names and qualifications of the officers in the Public Health Department are given at the beginning of the Report. There have been no changes during the year.

#### Ambulance Service.

During the year the County Council opened a new Central Ambulance Depot at Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury. Any application for an ambulance or sitting-case car should be made to this Depot. The Telephone Number is Shrewsbury 6331. There are also eight subsidiary depots in various parts of the county but it is advised that all enquiries should be made to the Central Depot at Shrewsbury.

At the end of 1953 there were 15 Ambulances and 7 Sitting-Case Cars at Shrewsbury and 3 Ambulances and 1 Sitting-Case Car at Ludlow and Craven Arms. A full Report of the Ambulance Service can be found in the Report of the County Medical Officer of Health.

#### Home Nursing.

The provision for the attendance of nurses on persons who require nursing in their own homes is the duty of the County Council as Local Health Authority under the National Health Service Act, 1946. There is one full-time Home Nurse at Ludlow and in other areas home nursing duties are undertaken by the home nurse mid-wives in the various nursing areas.

#### Hospital Accommodation.

Details of the hospitals serving the area have been given in previous Reports. Shrewsbury is the hospital centre for the whole County but patients are also sent to hospitals at Hereford, Tenbury, etc. Cases of infectious diseases which require hospital treatment are usually sent to Monkmoor Hospital, Shrewsbury, but in recent years the number of such cases is very much smaller than formerly. Cases of Tuberculosis are usually sent to the Sanatorium at Shirlett, Nr. Broseley.

#### Treatment Centres and Clinics.

There is a combined School Clinic and Infant Welfare Centre at Dinham, Ludlow. Ante-natal cases and Orthopaedic cases can also be seen by appointment. Particulars of the attendances at these Clinics can be found in the Report of the County Health Officer.

Cases of Tuberculosis are seen at the Chest Clinic, Shrewsbury, and this is now situated at Copthorne Hospital, Shrewsbury. One of the Chest Physicians also visits Ludlow once a month and cases can be referred to him by doctors if required.

Diphtheria Immunisation can be carried out by a private doctor at a child's home, or at a Welfare Centre or School Clinic by one of the County Health Medical Officers. Parents can also ask for a child to be protected against Whooping Cough and this is best done when a child is aged four months, as the disease is most serious in very young children.





## SECTION C.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

This section of the Report deals with water supplies, sewerage and sewage disposal, refuse collection, rodent control, inspection of Factories and Workshops, and other matters connected with environmental hygiene. I would like to thank the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. R.F. Saunders, and the Surveyor, Mr. E. Shaw, for much of the information in this and the next two sections of the Report.

### WATER SUPPLIES.

During the year the various supplies have proved adequate as regards quantity and there was no long period of dry weather at any time. At Clee Hill a treatment plant is needed and a scheme for the supply of this will be submitted to the Ministry early in 1955.

At Cleobury Mortimer a series of leaks developed in the suction tank at the rear of the pumping station towards the end of the year. These were repaired in December and the scheme is now in good order. The consumption of water is now 60,000 gallons per day, this taking into account the large amount used at the Canning Factory.

At Ticklerton, the scheme based on the borehole at the housing site was practically completed. Approval to the tender for the Rushbury, Wall, and Roman Bank scheme was given by the Ministry. This scheme is scheduled to be commenced in January, 1955. Approval was also received for the laying of a short length of main at Greete Road, Caynham, and also for the extension of two lengths of main from the Coreley system to serve Planton Court and Brookrow. These will be commenced in 1955.

The sinking of the borehole at Soudley was completed in December. The yield of the bore is satisfactory and the water will be chlorinated. A scheme is to be prepared based on the use of the source.

A new scheme has been designed (named the Western Area Water Scheme) to deal with 25 parishes in the Rural District. The scheme has been submitted to the Ministry and it is hoped that an enquiry will soon be held so that a start can then be made on the first section of the scheme - to serve the Corvedale area.

In the Burford area difficulties developed over the supply of water to certain mains along Burford Road from the mains of Tenbury Rural District Council. The Ludlow Rural District Council has now decided to try and develop a source near Burford House. Proposals for this have already been submitted in outline to the Council.

The Consulting Engineer's revised estimate of cost for the South Eastern Parishes Scheme is still awaited. When this is obtained the Council will then be able to proceed to a Public Enquiry stage.

The Joint High Level Scheme has now been modified by the two Councils concerned, consequent upon the Ludlow Rural District Council's decision to go ahead with the revised version of the Western Area Water Scheme. In this respect revised drawings and estimates are awaited from the Consulting Engineer.





## REPORTS ON WATER SAMPLES.

The following number of samples were taken during the year from the supplies owned by the Council. They were submitted for bacteriological examination.

Source.	Total Samples.	Number Satisfactory.	Number Unsatisfactory.
Cleobury Mortimer.	6	6	-
Craven Arms.	4	4	-
Ticklerton.	1	1	-
Clee Hill.	5	5	-
Elan Aqueduct.	3	3	-
Coreley.	3	2	1
St. Milburgha's Well.	1	1	-
Hope Bowdler.	1	-	1
Bitterley.	1	-	1
Wall-under-Heywood.	1	1	-
Clee St. Margaret.	1	1	-
Totals	27	24	3

In addition to the above samples a total of 72 samples were taken from private supplies and of these 16 were satisfactory and 56 were unsatisfactory. Forty five samples were taken from prospective Public Supplies and twelve were satisfactory and 33 unsatisfactory.

## Chemical Examination of Water Samples.

The following samples were sent for chemical examination and the results were as follows:-

Source.	Number of Samples.	Number Satisfactory.	Number Unsatisfactory.
Wood Farm, Wheathill.	1	1	-
Cleobury Mortimer.	1	1	-
St. Milburgha's Well.	1	1	-
Bockleton Pool.	1	1	-
Seifton Pool.	1	1	-
New Bore - Onibury.	1	1	-
Soudley.	2	2	-
Burford House.	1	-	1
Totals	9	8	1

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

In large rural areas the whole matter of sewerage and sewage disposal may often present problems which are not easy to find a solution for. In towns the matter is usually much easier to deal with as the houses concerned are placed in a smaller area. In rural districts the villages may be small and at considerable distances apart from each other.

If individual houses in the country are situated by themselves then the matter is easier to solve. If, however, a number of houses are near each other then sooner or later the question of the



need for a sewage disposal works will arise.

In the country also it is usual for the supplies of water to be at various places and an important point to remember is that no risk should be taken of any sewage polluting a water supply. A further matter is that before houses are built in the country areas it is of the utmost importance to be sure that at the chosen site there should be not only an adequate and safe water supply for the houses but that there should also be adequate means of sewerage for each house. If houses are built without such care being taken then it is possible that they may not be able to be lived in until water supply and sewerage are supplied.

Plans and estimates for work to be carried out at Craven Arms were submitted, the Surveyor reports, during the year but no progress has yet been made. Mr. Shaw is of the opinion that this is a matter of some urgency as there is a danger of such a large volume of untreated sewage affecting underground water supplies. The disposal plant here was constructed 1895 and in the year 1905 it served a total of 138 houses with a population of 650. The present system consists of land irrigation, the liquor soaking away into the underlying gravel deposits.

At Cleobury Mortimer the new sewage disposal works have been satisfactory. It has become apparent that more sludge drying capacity is likely to be required before long or alternatively sludge digestion to assist the de-watering of the sludge might be considered.

The scheme at Ashford Carbonell is being modified to suit the recommendations made by the Ministry and authority has now been received to proceed to the point at which all will be ready to call for tenders.

An enquiry was held during the year into the proposed new Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme for Clee Hill. The Ministry considered that a site with rather better access and with greater possibilities for expansion should be chosen. Revised sites have been investigated and the one chosen has been submitted to the Ministry. It is hoped that approval to this scheme will not be any longer delayed as it is really seriously needed to cope with the increased development on Clee Hill and to avoid fouling of water courses.

The Inspector reports that during the year work was proceeded with on the connecting of drains from existing properties at Cleobury Mortimer to the new sewers. In many cases also pail closets and privies were replaced by water closets. At the end of the year there were only a few closets at properties in the town remaining to be converted.

#### REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The refuse collection scheme was continued unchanged during the whole year but the Council decided to make certain alterations in the times of collection as from January, 1955.

At Craven Arms and Cleobury Mortimer collections have been made each week and in other parts of the district they were made every six weeks. Under the altered arrangements four collections are to be made in every five weeks at Craven Arms and Cleobury Mortimer, two collections in five weeks at Clee Hill and Burford, and elsewhere a collection made once in every five weeks.

Disposal is by tipping at nine tips of which five are in most regular use. The tips are treated regularly as regards the keeping down of rats and no nuisances have arisen during the year. One new tip at Hungry Hill, Cleobury Mortimer, was brought into use during the year and the use of one of the tips previously used, at New House Farm, was discontinued.





The collection of refuse in a wide Rural District is very often a difficult and expensive matter. The distances to be covered are considerable and this takes up a great deal of time. The roads in many cases are difficult to travel over and this may also add to the time taken.

Another matter which probably makes collection more difficult is the fact that all householders do not supply and use a suitable dustbin but may use some sort of wooden or even cardboard box. This makes it difficult for the men who are employed in the collection. It might be a good plan if each householder had to supply and use a standard type of bin.

Important matters in this work are the sizes of the bins used and of the refuse vehicles. If the vehicle is of a large type the result will be that the number of journeys to and from the tips will be lessened in number. This will therefore, save both time and money. A large bin also will hold more refuse and this is of value if the collections are made at a period of five weeks.

#### RODENT CONTROL.

As in the previous years one man is employed to carry out the scheme under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949. The man works for the Church Stretton Urban District Council for one week in every eight. The survey of the district has been continued and as the "Warfarin" used is harmless to other animals or poultry it has been found very useful at farms.

#### FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Section 128(3) of the Factories Act, 1937, requires certain particulars to be reported with regard to matters under Part I and Part VIII of the Act which are administered by the District Council. In regard to Factories where no power is employed the Local Authority enforces Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 of the Act. These Sections deal with cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation and drainage. In Factories where power is employed the Local Authority enforces Section 7 of the Act which deals with suitable and sufficient sanitary conveniences.

In Factories where more than 20 persons are employed or where more than ten persons are employed above the ground floor, the District Council have to be satisfied that, in case of a fire, adequate means of escape from the building are provided.

The Inspector reports that there are a total of 71 Factories and Workshops on the Register. Of these a total of 18 have no mechanical power and 53 have mechanical power. A total of nine visits were paid during the year. In three cases defects were found and these were all remedied after notice had been sent.

#### INSPECTIONS BY THE SANITARY INSPECTORS.

The following is a summary of the visits paid by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year:-

Meat Inspection	460
New Buildings etc.	243
Water Supplies	153
Improvement Grants (Housing Act, 1949)	160
Drainage	135
Housing (Public Health & Housing Acts)	118



Petroleum Installations	61
Miscellaneous Visits	51
Refuse Collection	49
Factories and Workshops	9
Food Premises	20
Dairies and Cow Sheds	12
Footpaths	4
Slaughter Houses	24
Knackers Yards	7
Infectious Diseases	15
Moveable Dwellings	34
National Assistance Acts	1
Rodent Control	12
Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts	7
Allocation of Houses	271
Council Houses	11

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Total	1,857
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SECTION D.

HOUSING.

Number of inhabited houses	4,221
Number of Council Houses	338
Number of houses completed in 1954	
(a) Council Houses	40
(b) Private Houses	19
Improvement Grants applied for	37
Improvement Grants approved by Council	37
Number of housing applications as at 31.12.54.	330

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SITES OF NEW COUNCIL HOUSES.

Site.	Completed in 1954.	Under Construction as at 31.12.54.	To be commenced in 1955.
Knowbury	10	-	-
Craven Arms	22	-	6
Munslow	8	-	-
Longville	-	4	-
Onibury	-	8	-
Culmington	-	8	-
Coreley	-	10	-
Diddlebury	-	-	16
Middleton	-	-	8
Stoke St. Milborough	-	-	10
Cleobury Mortimer	-	-	36
Greete	-	-	8
Totals	40	30	84

Of the total number of houses to be commenced in 1955, six of the ones at Cleobury Mortimer and the six at Craven Arms are to be Old Persons Dwellings.

The Surveyor reports that houses at New Road Gardens, Cleobury Mortimer, and Tenbury Road, Clee Hill, have been improved during the year by the addition of hot water systems and other facilities. The Council have also accepted tenders for the improvement of 8 houses at Hints Meadow, and for Corner Cottage, Coreley.

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

This Act came into operation on the 30th August, 1954, and it enables landlords whose property is in good condition to claim a repairs increase on the rent. Booklets have also been printed by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in which explanations are given as to how Grants for Improvements and Conversions can be claimed and also information is given as to amount of increases which can be made of the rents. Section 16 and 37 of this new Act make certain alterations in the provisions of Part 11 of the Housing Act, 1949, concerning grants for improvement and conversion with the object of encouraging more owners to apply for grants. In that Act of 1949 it was laid down



that in order to qualify for a grant a dwelling must provide satisfactory housing accommodation for at least 30 years. This has now been amended to allow the Minister, or the Local Authority as the case may be, to approve proposals if satisfied that they are likely to provide satisfactory accommodation for more than 15 years and that it is expedient in all the circumstances that the proposals should be approved. Section 16(4) of the new Act removes the maximum figure of £800 which can be spent on improvements and imposes instead a maximum to the grant itself of £400. The new Act also gives the Minister power to raise the £400 maximum grant if the local authority and he are satisfied that there is good reason to do this.

It will be seen that 37 applications for grants were made during 1954 and these were all approved.

#### Moveable Dwellings.

A total of 22 caravans were licensed during the year and of these there were 15 at a farm site near Cleobury Mortimer. The Inspector reports that this site is maintained in a satisfactory condition.

#### New Buildings and Structural Alterations.

A total of 180 plans concerning new buildings or of structural alterations to existing buildings were submitted during the year. In all cases in which Planning Control was involved a recommendation was sent to the County Council.

#### Unfit Houses.

During the year action was taken regarding a number of unfit houses when it was known that the tenants in such houses would be re-housed by the Council in the near future. Undertakings were given by the owners in respect of 16 of these houses that the houses would not again be let for human habitation.

#### Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925.

The Ministry of Health have asked that the information in tabular form required under Article 31 of the above Regulations should be given in the Report. The following figures have been supplied by the Sanitary InspectorL-

1.	Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for habitation	100
2.	The number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	7
3.	The number of representations made to the local authority with a view to:-	
	(a) the serving of notices requiring the execution of works	2
	(b) the making of demolition or closing orders	3
4.	The number of notices served requiring the execution of works	2
5.	The number of houses rendered fit after the serving of formal notices	Nil
6.	The number of demolition or closing orders made	2
7.	The number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under sub-section (2) of Section 19 of the Housing Act, 1930 (z)	16
8.	The number of houses demolished	Nil





### Houses for Old People.

In addition to houses already mentioned which it is planned to build at Newton, Craven Arms, and at Cleobury Mortimer (six houses in each of these places), the Council are considering the building of a group of 12 or 16 houses on a site at Craven Arms. This group of houses would be on the lines of some Old Peoples' houses already built in Somerset and there would be accommodation for a Warden included. Since the end of the war most of the houses built all over the country have been for families with children and there has not been much building of smaller houses for old people.



SECTION E.

INSPECTION OF AND SUPERVISION OVER FOOD SUPPLY.

Meat Inspection.

During the year the Ministry of Food's slaughter house at Craven Arms was continued up to the end of July and after that date Local Authorities were required under the Slaughterhouse Act, 1954, to make sure that there would be a sufficient number of slaughterhouses in their district and they were empowered to grant licences in respect of the use of private slaughterhouses. Applications were received and licences were given for three places situated at Munslow, Cleobury Mortimer and at Craven Arms. The one at Munslow is used once a week as a rule, and the one at Cleobury Mortimer is used four times a week. At Craven Arms the slaughterhouse is being operated by the Shropshire Fatstock Society Ltd. and the number of animals slaughtered has increased very much as compared with the number slaughtered in previous years. This has made a great amount of extra work for the Sanitary Inspectors as the slaughtering of animals has been taking place on every day of the week. The present buildings are not satisfactory and the Society have made plans for them to be improved and brought up to date. It is not yet known as to how many slaughterhouses will be advised for the County by the Government Committee who are to report on the matter for the whole of the country. In the event of one or two slaughterhouses being advised for Shropshire it is not yet known where they may be situated. For this reason it may be a mistake to spend a considerable amount of money now on the improvement of a slaughterhouse which may not be required when the new scheme of centralised slaughterhouses comes into being. In November, 1954, the Council passed a resolution under Section 4 of the Slaughterhouse Act, 1954, to the effect that no further slaughterhouse licences will be granted or renewed except only in special cases and with the consent of the Ministry of Food. This resolution has now been confirmed by the Ministry.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs.</u>
Number Killed	1,712	334	1,100	11,518	4,953
Number Inspected	1,712	334	1,100	11,518	4,953

All Diseases except Tuberculosis.

Whole Carcases					
condemned	12	20	10	87	15
Organs or parts					
condemned	329	216	7	307	111
Percentage					
affected	19.1	71.6	1.6	3.4	2.5

Tuberculosis.

Whole Carcases					
condemned	13	11	-	-	4
Organs or parts					
condemned	55	98	-	-	62
Percentage					
affected	3.9	3.2	-	-	1.3

Weight of meat condemned:	1. On account of Tuberculosis	18,211 lbs
	2. On account of other diseases	30,848 lbs
	Total Weight	= 49,059 lbs





The total weight of meat condemned = 21 tons, 18 cwts, 3 lbs.

In addition to the above meat condemned a number of other food stuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption and were also condemned.

#### Milk.

The supervision of the conditions under which milk is produced at farms is carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture. Conditions at the retail premises where milk is sold have proved to be satisfactory during the year, as reported by the Sanitary Inspector. There is not yet any pasteurising plant in the district but licences to sell designated milk were issued as follows:-

Sterilised Milk	1
Pasteurised Milk	3
Tuberculin Tested Milk	5
Tuberculin Tested and Pasteurised Milk	1

---

During the year there has been no epidemic of any disease which was carried by milk.

#### Ice Cream.

There are 29 retailers of pre-packed ice cream in the district. This compares with 19 retailers in the previous year. In addition to the retailers mentioned there is one dealer who sells 'cold mix' ice cream. Two samples were taken from this dealer's ice cream and passed as being satisfactory.

Although the pre-packed ice cream is made by some of the large firms and is usually satisfactory, it would be as well if samples of it were taken during the summer months so that, if any samples were found to be unsatisfactory, the matter could be reported on and dealt with at once. It is better that this should be done as if it is not carried out there is always the danger that some epidemic of disease might be spread by the ice cream.



SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year ending 31st December, 1954:-

NOTIFICATIONS - 1954.

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Number Notified.</u>	<u>Admitted to Hospital.</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>
Scarlet Fever	9	-	-
Whooping Cough	67	1	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	-
Dysentery (Sonne)	6	6	-
Pneumonia	5	-	2
Tuberculosis - Pulm.	6	-	-
Tuberculosis - Non-Pulm.	4	3	-
Paratyphoid B.	1	1	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-
Measles	1	-	-

No cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year and the last case notified in the district was in 1943. The immunisation of children against this disease is carried out either at the Infant Welfare Centres or the School Clinics by the County Council Medical Officers or by private practitioners at the homes of the children. Particulars of the number of children immunised will be found in the Report of the County Medical Officer.

Whooping Cough was more common than in the previous year but Measles less common. Most of the cases of Whooping Cough were notified in the third and fourth Quarters of the year. This disease is most fatal in the cases of children aged under one year. In the year 1952 there were 184 deaths from Whooping Cough and 111 of these were of children aged under one year (60.3 per cent). These figures refer to the whole country. Therefore, if any protection of the children is to be carried out it will have to be carried out at about the age of four months.

No cases of Acute Poliomyelitis were notified during the year. The Scarlet Fever cases were of a mild type and were nursed at home.

With regard to the progress which has been made in the country as a whole in the protection of children against Diphtheria, a Circular has been issued by the Ministry of Health (Circular No. 5/55) in which figures are given as to the notifications of the disease in the last ten years and also as to the deaths which it has been the cause of.

In seeing these figures it is difficult perhaps to remember that thirty or forty years ago the number of cases of this disease notified in England and Wales was as many as 60,000 per annum and the number of deaths was more than 3,000 per annum. The Ministry stress the importance of having the children protected still and much can be done by Doctors, Nurses and others who come into contact with the children's parents and who can explain to them the importance of having the children protected. Such personal talks to the parents are of more importance and will get better results in the way of parents' consents to protection being given to their children than any amount of posters or advertisements in papers etc. The following are the figures given in the Circular:-





<u>Year.</u>	<u>Notifications.</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>
1945	18,596	722
1946	11,986	472
1947	5,609	244
1948	3,575	156
1949	1,890	84
1950	962	49
1951	664	33
1952	376	32
1953	266	23
1954	182 *	9 *

\* The figure for the year 1954 are provisional.

### TUBERCULOSIS.

The following are the numbers of cases of this disease on the Register at the 31st December, 1954:-

<u>MALES</u>		<u>FEMALES</u>		<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>Pulmon.</u>	<u>Non-Pulm.</u>	<u>Pulmon.</u>	<u>Non-Pulm.</u>	
31	15	26	13	85

### New Cases.

A total number of six new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year. Of the total number five were Male (ages - 7, 27, 43, 44 and 60 years), and one was Female (aged 21 years).

Four cases were also notified of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis and these were all Female (ages - 7, 8, 9 and 36 years).

### Deaths.

There were no deaths from either the Pulmonary or Non-Pulmonary type of cases.

### CANCER.

A total of 18 deaths (9 male and 9 female) took place from this disease during the year. The death-rate from the disease was 1.302 per 1,000 of the population. This is a lower rate than the one for the previous year which was 1.670 per 1,000. (The death-rate for England and Wales was 2.035).

Of the total deaths of males three were of the disease affecting the lung or bronchus and there was one death among the female deaths in which the lungs were affected.



CAUSES OF DEATH.

1954.

Cause of Death.	Number of Deaths.		Total.
	Male	Female	
Diseases of Heart and Circulation	34	27	61
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	13	14	27
Malignant Disease	9	9	18
Accidents	7	3	10
Bronchitis	6	2	8
Pneumonia	2	-	2
Other Causes	11	6	17
Totals	82	61	143

Death-rate	(crude)	10.3 per 1,000.
" "	(corrected)	8.9 per 1,000.
Death-rate	(for England & Wales)	11.3 per 1,000.

The above figures show that 106 deaths or 74% of the total number of deaths were due to the first three causes mentioned.

Two of the deaths (male) from accidents were due to motor vehicle accidents. This is a reduced number from the figure for the previous year when there were five deaths from such accidents.

Deaths of children under the age of one year numbered six as compared with a total of seven in the previous year.

There were no deaths from Infectious Diseases with the exception of two deaths from Pneumonia.

The 'Comparability Factor' as supplied by the General Register Office in relation to death-rates is 0.87. From this figure the Corrected Death-rate can be obtained and it will be seen that the Corrected Death-rate for the district is 8.9 per 1,000 as compared with a rate of 11.3 for England and Wales.







